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about 80% (e.g., at least about 90%) or substantially all of the alumina particles have diameters of at least about 100 nm (e.g., from about 100 nm to about 200 nm, more preferably from about 120 nm to about 190 nm, and most preferably from about 140-180 nm (e.g., from about 150-170 nm)).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6, 8-26, 31, 32, and 34-43.

Please replace the indicated claims as follows:

Subj
B3
1. (Amended) A recording medium comprising a substrate having a glossy coating thereon, the glossy coating comprising alumina particles and a binder, wherein the alumina particles are aggregates of primary particles and have a surface area of about 30-80 m^2/g , and the glossy coating has a 75° specular gloss of at least about 15%.

BT Subj
7. (Amended) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the alumina to binder ratio is at least about 2:1 by weight.

Subj C5
B5
27. (Amended) A recording medium prepared by a method comprising
(a) providing a substrate,
(b) coating the substrate with a coating composition comprising alumina particles and a binder, wherein the alumina particles are aggregates of primary particles, and the solids content of the alumina in the composition is at least about 10 wt.%, and
(c) drying the coated substrate to provide the recording medium.

28. (Amended) The recording medium of claim 27, wherein the coating composition has a solids content of alumina in the composition of at least about 20 wt.%.

Please add the following new claims:

B6 Subj C8
44. (New) The recording medium of claim 7, wherein the alumina to binder ratio is at least about 7:1.

45. (New) The recording medium of claim 44, wherein the alumina to binder ratio is at least about 9:1.

46. (New) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the glossy coating has a 75° specular gloss of at least about 65%.

47. (New) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the glossy coating has a total mercury intrusion volume of at least about 0.3 ml/g.

C8
48. (New) The recording medium of claim 47, wherein the glossy coating has a total mercury intrusion volume of at least about 0.8 ml/g.

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49. (New) The recording medium of claim 4, wherein the aggregates have a mean diameter of less than about 1 μ m.

50. (New) The recording medium of claim 49, wherein the aggregates have a mean diameter of about 80-300 nm.

51. (New) The recording medium of claim 50, wherein the aggregates have a mean diameter of about 100-200 nm.

52. (New) The recording medium of claim 4, wherein the alumina to binder ratio is at least about 2:1 by weight.

53. (New) The recording medium of claim 52, wherein the alumina to binder ratio is at least about 9:1.

C9
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54. (New) The recording medium of claim 4, wherein the aggregates have a surface area of about 40-60 m^2/g .

55. (New) The recording medium of claim 4, wherein the glossy coating has a 75° specular gloss of at least about 65%.

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56. (New) The recording medium of claim 4, wherein the glossy coating has a total mercury intrusion volume of at least about 0.3 ml/g.

57. (New) The recording medium of claim 56, wherein the glossy coating has a total mercury intrusion volume of at least about 0.8 ml/g.